

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

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R 092107Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETEL, ITU, GR, YO

SUBJ: RADIO FREQUENCY INTERFERENCE BY YUGOSLAV STATION
ON 71 KHZ

REF: ATHENS 2674 AND 2527; OM 3/20/75

1. REFERENCE FIRST PARAGRAPHY OF IFRB LETTER TO GOG DATED
FEBRUARY 25, 1975. OUR OPINION IS THAT GOY ERRED IN
SENDING FREQUENCY NOTICE TO 791 KHZ DIRECTLY TO IFRB.
SINCE GOY AND GOG SIGNATORY TO EUROPEAN BROADCASTING
CONVENTION, COPENHAGEN, 1949(EBC), PROPER PROCEDURE FOR
GOY SHOULD HAVE BEEN THAT
PRESCRIBED IN ARTICLE 8 OF
EBC. THIS REQUIRES GOY TO NOTIFY AND COORDINATE WITH
GOG AND OTHER ASSIGNEE OF CHANNEL (FRANCE) BEFORE SUB-
MITTING REQUIREMENT TO IFRB.

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2. WE ARE OF OPINION THAT IFRB ALSO ERRED IN HANDLING

GOY NOTICE. GOY CLAIMED THAT FREQUENCY WAS USED FOR MORE THAN 60 DAYS WITHOUT CAUSING HARMFUL INTERFERENCE IS IRRELEVANT. THIS IS MEANINGLESS ONLY WHEN A NOTICE IS RESUBMITTED TO THE IFRB AFTER AN UNSATISFACTORY FINDING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 515 OF RADIO REGULATIONS. GOY NOTICE WAS AN ORIGINAL SUBMISSION NOT A RESUBMISSION. WHEN GOY NOTICE WAS EXAMINED BY IFRB, IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN APPARENT THAT NOTICE WAS NOT IN CONFORMITY WITH ARTICLE 8 OF EBC, AND SHOULD HAVE BEEN RETURNED IMMEDIATELY TO THE GOY AS BEING INCOMPLETE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 496 OF RADIO REGULATION. WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT BOARD INCORRECTLY APPLIED PARAGRAPH 505 OF RADIO REGULATION WHICH WOULD BE APPLICABLE ONLY IF NOTICE HAD BEEN IN CONFORMITY WITH ARTICLE 8 OF EBC.

3. REFERENCE SECOND PARAGRAPH OF BOARD'S LETTER. THE "SATISFACTORY FINDING" GIVEN GOY FOR 791 KHZ WAS OUT OF ORDER ON TWO COUNTS. RADIO REGULATIONS CLEARLY STATES THAT IFRB SHALL EXAMINE A NOTICE WITH RESPECT TO THE PROBABILITY OF HARMFUL INTERFERENCE TO STATIONS WHICH HAVE A COLUMN 2A DATE RECORDED IN THE MASTER REGISTER OF THE ITU. SINCE THE GOG STATION BEARS A COLUMN 2A DATE AND THE GOY NOTICE WAS NOT IN CONFORMITY WITH ARTICLE 8 OF THE EBC, THE BOARD WOULD HAVE EITHER RETURNED THE GOY NOTICE OR CARRIED OUT A TECHNICAL EXAMINATION TO DETERMINE THE PROBABILITY OF HARMFUL INTERFERENCE.

4. HAD BOARD CARRIED OUT A TECHNICAL EXAMINATION USING IFRB TECHNICAL STANDARDS SERIES A, FOURTH ADDITION, AND THE PARAMETERS SHOWN IN THE ITU MASTER REGISTER FOR THE GOG STATION ON 791 KHZ (LOCATION THESSALONIKI, POWER 50 KW, ANTENNA OMNI-DIRECTIONAL, 24-HOUR OPERATION), IT IS OUR OPINION THAT BOARD WOULD HAVE FOUND POTENTIALLY WIDESPREAD HARMFUL INTERFERENCE TO GOG STATION THROUGHOUT MOST OF GREECE AND IN ADJACENT AREAS BETWEEN THE HOURS OF LOCAL SUNSET AND SUNRISE. (ALTHOUGH STATION IS NOW LOCATED AT KAVALA, USING 500 KW AND A DIRECTIONAL ANTENNA PROBABILITY OF HARMFUL INTERFERENCE MUST BE BASED ON PARAMETERS CONTAINED IN MASTER REGISTER. IN FACT, HOWEVER, WIDESPREAD INTERFERENCE IS BEING EXPERIENCED UNDER PRESENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OPERATING CONDITIONS.)

5. SINCE MASTER REGISTER LISTING SHOWS COLUMN 2A DATE FOR GOG STATION, GOG HAS RIGHT TO INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION FROM HARMFUL INTERFERENCE THROUGHOUT COVERAGE AREA IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 607 OF RADIO REGULATIONS. THE IFRB CONFIRMS THIS IN THIRD PARAGRAPH OF THEIR LETTER TO THE GOG, AND EVEN MORE STRONGLY IN THEIR LETTER TO THE

GOY, IN WHICH THE BOARD PLACES THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ELIMINATING THE INTERFERENCE SQUARELY UPON THE GOY. WHILE THIS IS CORRECT, IT IS IN CONTRADICTION TO THE SATISFACTORY FINDING THE BOARD GAVE THE GOY NOTICE.

6. IN VIEW OF THE APPARENT ERRORS COMMITTED BY THE IFRB IN HANDLING GOY NOTICE, THE GOG, CAN ASK THE BOARD TO REVIEW ITS FINDING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 612 OF RADIO REGULATIONS. PURPOSE OF REVIEW WOULD BE FOR BOARD TO WITHDRAW SATISFACTORY FINDING AND EITHER RETURN NOTICE TO GOY AS INCOMPLETE UNDER ARTICLE 8 OF EBC, OR CONDUCT TECHNICAL EXAMINATION PURSUANT TO RADIO REGULATION 502.

7. FURTHER, IFRB LETTER TO GOY SQUARELY PLACES RESPONSIBILITY UPON GOY TO ELIMINATE INTERFERENCE, GOG AT SAME TIME CAN REQUEST FROM GOY NATURE OF ACTION THEY INTEND TAKING IN CARRYING OUT IFRB RECOMMENDATION. GOG CAN INFORM GOY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 15 OF RADIO REGULATIONS, THAT HARMFUL INTERFERENCE IS BEING EXPERIENCED THROUGHOUT LARGE AREAS OF GREECE AFTER SUNSET. IF GOY NOT COOPERATIVE, GOG CAN ASK FOR FURTHER ASSISTANCE FROM IFRB IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTIONS VII AND VIII OF ARTICLE 9 OF RADIO REGULATIONS OR UNDER ARTICLE 8 OF COPENHAGEN PLAN ANNEXED TO EBC.

8. AT DESCRETION OF EMBASSY, REQUEST INFORMATION ABOVE BE CONVEYED BY APPROPRIATE MEANS TO GOG.

9. ADVISE DEPARTMENT AND USIA OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY GOG AND IF WE CAN BE OF FURTHER ASSISTANCE.
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